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THE MORNING STAR.

VOL. LXII.---NO. 47. WILMINGTON, N. C., MONDAY, MAY 16, 1898. WHOLE NO. 9,592

EXTRA EDITION.

The Morning Star.

LOCAL DOTS.

— All the late war news will be found in the STAR to-day.

— The Seacoast railroad announces its new schedule to-day.

— Our extra edition goes to-day, as usual, to all our subscribers free of charge. We even pay the postage.

— Messrs. W. B. Brice, W. E. Ennis, N. H. Carter and J. W. Teachy of Wallace, spent yesterday in the city.

— A special to the STAR from Port Royal last night says the painting of the monitor *Nantucket* has been completed. The tar-heel tars are given partial liberty now, and all are reported well.

— About one hundred cars loaded with troops and forty loaded with army supplies were expected at Rocky Mount last night en route for Tampa. The troops are from New York and Massachusetts.

— The train on the Wilmington Seacoast road carried three cars well filled with passengers from this city to Wrightsville beach yesterday afternoon. Several people went in bathing during the afternoon.

BACK FROM CAMP GRIMES.

Mr. Rob Fowler Returned to the City Yesterday—He Talks About His Raleigh Experiences.

Mr. Rob Fowler, of the Wilmington Light Infantry, who went to Raleigh with the company when they volunteered, and failed to pass the examination, returned to the city yesterday afternoon looking quite well, save that he is bronzed by his brief camp life experience. He, as the STAR has heretofore announced, was turned down by the examining physician on account of defective eyes.

As Mr. Fowler passed down Front street yesterday afternoon, his fatigue uniform showing the effect of travelling, and his knapsack slung over his shoulders, he was an object of general interest. And when he chanced to stop, a group of eager listeners quickly gathered to catch every word that he might speak regarding life at Camp Grimes or the gallant soldier boys he had left there. And indeed they were not disappointed, for he tells many stories, laughable and serious, which illustrate both the bright and dark sides of the experiences through which they are passing.

In speaking of the examinations to which they were subjected, he said it was almost impossible to "learn the ropes" and hoodwink the physician, as they rarely examined any two in succession alike.

Mr. Fowler will resume the duties of the position he held in the railroad offices prior to volunteering.

TO ELECT OFFICERS TO-NIGHT.

The Baptist Boys' Brigade To Choose a Successor to Capt. Whitney.

To-night the Baptist Boys' Brigade, Wilmington's crack juvenile military organization, will hold a meeting for the purpose of electing new officers. Their former captain, Mr. W. A. Whitney, is in Raleigh, having volunteered with the Wilmington Light Infantry. This will doubtless bring about a general shuffle among the officers. The Brigade is now officered as follows: First Lieutenant H. G. Whitney, Second Lieutenant Charlie Harriss, First Sergeant Percy Smith, Second Sergeant Willie Muse and First Corporal Earl Webb.

A Sad Death.

Little Mabel Grady, the 4-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Grady, died Saturday night and was buried yesterday afternoon. The death was quite sudden, the child having been taken with spasms about 9.30 P. M. and died within an hour. Mr. James Grady, father of the deceased child, is on board the hospital ship *Solace*, which sailed from Norfolk to Key West two weeks ago and is to sail within a few days for Cuban waters. Before the *Nantucket* was put in service, Mr. Grady was one of the shipkeepers on board that staunch monitor.

An "Abbreviated Edition."

The *Messenger* was so prompt and gracious in giving the dimensions of the extra edition of the STAR of Monday, May 2d, that we take pleasure in reciprocating the courtesy by stating that the issue of the *Messenger* of yesterday was only two-thirds its former size. But it was moderately bully, "and gave enough of the news to be interesting." 'Twas an "abbreviated" *Mess.*, nevertheless.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

Trade Balance in Favor of the United States Estimated at £20,000,000.

By Cable to the Morning Star

LONDON, May 15.—Some 2,000,000 pounds sterling of the Chinese indemnity are expected to be remitted to Japan to replace the drain of gold coin since the gold standard was introduced. Otherwise, the Japanese Government intends to hold the indemnity as a reserve in London, only realizing a portion occasionally for the payment of indebtedness for naval armaments.

The Bank of England continues its process of enlarging the gold reserve of that institution, in preparation for eventualities.

The trade balance in favor of the United States, in consequence of the rise in the price of breadstuffs, is already estimated at 20,000,000 pounds sterling. Therefore, heavy gold exports may commence at any time.

AN EXPEDITION THAT FAILED.

Steamer Gussie Unable to Land Men and Munitions for the Cuban Insurgents.

RETURNED TO KEY WEST.

Had Skirmishes With Spanish Troops Near Cabanas and Matanzas—Cubans Unable to Meet the Landing Party.

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KEY WEST, FLA., May 15.—The steamer Gussie, which left Tampa, Fla., May 10th, with two companies of the First infantry on board, in charge of seven thousand rifles and two hundred thousand rounds of ammunition, intended for the insurgents in the province of Pinar del Rio, remained off the coast of Cuba Thursday, Friday and yesterday, convoyed by the auxiliary gunboat Manning, in a vain attempt to land her cargo. Captain J. H. Dorst, of the staff of General Miles and formerly United States military attache at Vienna, headed the expedition which returned here this morning. He says the Gussie will go to Tampa, Fla. Previous to leaving Cuban waters the Dorst expeditionary force

Had a Skirmish

with Spanish cavalry near Cabanas, fifteen miles west of Havana, where an attempt was made to land part of the cargo. On Friday morning, Capt. Dorst abandoned the attempt at this point and steamed eastward to Matanzas, where an arrangement had been made with the insurgents to send supplies ashore at Point Maya, a mile or so east of the entrance of the harbor.

The Gussie and her convoy yesterday morning steamed until about two miles off shore, when the rattle of musketry from a considerable force of Spanish soldiers concealed behind underbrush ashore, warned them that they would receive a lively welcome if they landed. The Spanish troops seemed to have been furnished with information of the contemplated landing at both points. After this second failure Captain Dorst decided to abandon the attempt to land the arms and ammunition and return to Key West.

A more disgusted looking lot of troopers than those aboard the Gussie this morning it would be hard to find. They had received orders not to speak of their trip, and sullenly lined the rail of the Gussie as the Associated Press launch ran along side of her. But grunts were the only answers which could be obtained to the questions asked.

Soon after the arrival of the Gussie Captain Dorst was rowed ashore and reported the failure of his expedition by cable to the War Department.

Cause of the Failure.

Naval officers here say that if Captain Dorst had secured the co-operation of some of the ships of the blockading squadron at the point selected for the landing, the Spanish troops ashore could have been shelled and a way would have been cleared for the landing of the soldiers and the cargo they had in charge, but no instructions were given to the ships to co-operate with Captain Dorst's expedition and the Gussie was several times compelled to heave-to, while cruising up and down the coast, by the blockade vessels whose commanders were under the apprehension that she was trying to run the blockade. The United States gunboat Machias which was lying off Matanzas on Friday night, reported that signal lights were seen ashore east of Point Sabilla and some of her officers say they believe the insurgents, having ascertained that the rendezvous at Point Maya had been discovered by the enemy, desired a landing to be made at another point, but Captain Dorst held to his original plans and found the Spanish troops awaiting him. He did not return empty handed, however. At Cabanas the American party captured a prisoner of war in a shack.

Captain Dorst says the failure of the expedition was due to the fact that the Cubans were unable to meet the landing party at the rendezvous and the Americans could not land supplies with no one to receive them.

The Arrangements

for making a landing at Cabanas were made ten days ago by Captain Dorst, with General Delgado, in command of the insurgent forces in the province of Pinar del Rio, and the supplies to be landed near Matanzas were to be conveyed to General Gomez by a force of insurgents encamped three miles back from the coast line. Both of the Cuban parties were unable, apparently, to appear at the rendezvous, owing to the activity of the Spaniards. Captain Dorst is convinced that the Spaniards have a good system of communication along the coast and that they can quickly raise enough troops to prevent the landing of a small force, such as the one he commanded, and the Captain believes the only way arms and ammunition can be sent to the insurgents is to land them under the cover of warships with guns sufficient to beat off any attack. Then, he adds, the arms and ammunition should be conveyed inland by United States soldiers.

The Captain says the company which landed through the surf at Cabanas

Had a Narrow Escape.

The soldiers were fired upon by Spanish cavalry concealed in the tangled underbrush, and the fire was replied to with the result that one Spanish officer and three men were hit. Only one man on the American side was wounded. The latter, a newspaper correspondent, received a slight flesh wound in the arm. The Wasp and the Manning shelled the woods and covered the retreat of the soldiers to the Gussie.

On Friday the Spaniards tried to hit the Gussie from a masked battery and some of their shells burst close on board, but none of the fragments struck.

Wounded Seaman Dead.

Ernest Suntzenech, one of the American seamen wounded at Cienfuegos last Thursday, died at the marine hospital here yesterday evening and was buried to-day. He was a first class seaman apprentice and belonged to the United States cruiser Marblehead. He was shot through the left leg, in a boat, while assisting in cutting the cable off Cienfuegos. He died after his limb had been amputated. The deceased lived on Monitor street, Brooklyn.

CONDITIONS IN HAVANA.

Little Sickness But Much Starvation—Reconcentrados Nearly all Dead--Threats to Burn the City.

[Copyright 1898 by the Associated Press.]

KEY WEST, FLA., May 15.—The conditions in Havana, resulting from the blockade, are being gradually brought out by information obtained from fishing smacks and other small vessels captured off the coast.

Affairs at Havana now appear to be worse than at any time since the Weyler regime. The fishermen who at first braved the blockade for the high price which fish brought in Havana, now run the risk, not for money, but for the food which they obtain from the sea. A number of these men have been captured at different times by the vessels of the blockading fleet, nearly all of them being released after having been questioned by our officers. They all unite in picturing the state of things at Havana as being pitiful in the extreme.

The Associated Press dispatch boat Kate Spencer has accumulated all the facts obtainable along the blockading line, the latest news being obtained through two captures made by the United States gunboat Machias, which has just returned here for the first time since the blockade opened, making the longest single service of any blockading vessel off Cuba.

The Machias caught two fishing boats off Havana just before her return here. The Americans offered the fishermen money for part of their catch, as the fish was needed on board. But the fishermen demurred at taking money. They preferred to have bread, adding that they were desperately hungry.

As to Yellow Fever.

When questioned as to the prevalence of yellow fever at Havana, the fishermen said there was little sickness at the Cuban capital; but they added there was much starvation. The reconcentrados, they said, are nearly all dead, or have been expelled from the city to die in the suburbs. This agrees with other reports from Havana and Matanzas, to the effect that the Spanish authorities, on the departure of the American consul, seized all the relief supplies and applied them to the use of the army. The Spaniards then drove the reconcentrados into the desolated sections of the country between the coast towns and the insurgent lines, the regions described by Senator Proctor and others as being too barren and desolate to support grasshoppers.

Dying of Starvation.

The insurgents themselves have been chary of receiving reconcentrados and hundreds of the latter who had no personal friends in the insurgent camps had been left to starve between the lines, which they did.

About Havana the situation is even worse. Hundreds of reconcentrados from Los Fosas, the big reconcentrados barracks in Havana, ware too weak to walk out of the town and fell in the streets or died in the suburbs, where flocks of vultures, "Weyler's chickens" as they are termed in Havana, have feasted on the remains.

In Matanzas this feature of the situation is equally distressing.

The fishermen who have been brought here are mostly soon reconciled to capture, which means food and decent treatment. They say that if the blockade continues much longer bread riots must follow in all the large towns, as food is reserved exclusively for the army, thus forcing many people to enlist who would not otherwise do so.

Finally, the fishermen say that certain of the most desperate of the Spaniards threaten to burn Havana or blow the city up in the event of the authorities deciding to capitulate to the American forces.

ORDER FOR ASSIGNMENT OF VOLUNTEER TROOPS.

Total Number Mustered In 65,000—One North Carolina Regiment to Go to Tampa.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

WASHINGTON, May 15.—After going over the situation last evening with General Miles, Adjutant General Corbin and the heads of the supply departments, the Secretary of War made an order for the assignment of volunteer troops now being mustered into the service of the United States and designated points where they will assemble with the least possible delay. This step was rendered necessary from the fact that the State authorities are very fast relinquishing control of troops that are passing over the muster line under the authority of the general government. It became necessary to assemble these troops at once in order to meet the problem of their subsistence, no less than that of their equipment in the way of arms, clothing, camp and garrison equipage, to say nothing of the superior advantage of drill and instruction under trained officers, as it is the intention that it shall be in every instance. The officers to organize these troops into brigades and divisions will be determined upon very soon and be ordered to stations accordingly. The impression that seems to obtain that any particular corps or camp will have superior advantage over others in being sent to the front is wholly erroneous. The distribution of camps was made upon the lines of transportation and supplies. The supply departments will have a depot in each camp, which can be more readily reached than the troops could at their rendezvous in their several States.

At the close of work yesterday at 6 o'clock, the total number of troops mustered was 65,000. Taking into consideration the careful physical examination to which these men have been subjected, the progress has been wonderfully rapid.

The order assigning the troops has been issued, and contains the following:

One regiment of South Carolina infantry to Chickamauga.

To department commanders: One regiment North Carolina infantry, one battalion South Carolina infantry and one battery (heavy).

One battalion Virginia infantry to Washington, D. C.

One regiment North Carolina infantry to Tampa, Fla.; also two regiments Virginia infantry, same place.

There has been little material change in Mr. Gladstone's condition since Friday. His debility is extreme and seems to be increasing. Happily he is free from suffering and his mind perfectly placid.

ENGAGEMENT OFF HAVANA.

Two Spanish Warships Try to Draw the Blockading Vessels Into a Trap.

BUT THE SCHEME FAILED.

Ships Open Fire—A Lively Action Lasting an Hour—Batteries on Shore Waste Their Ammunition—No Damage to Americans.

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KEY WEST, FLA., May 15.—(On board the Associated Press dispatch boat Kate Spencer, off Havana, May 14, 8 P. M.—Captain General Blanco, two hours before sundown to-night, attempted to execute a ruse, which, if successful, would have cleared the front of Havana of six ships on that blockading station. Unable to come out to do battle he adopted the tactics of the spider and cunningly planned to draw the prey into his net, but though a clever and pretty scheme, as an original proposition, it was practically a repetition of the trick by which the gunboat Vicksburg and the little converted revenue cutter Morrill were last week decoyed by a fishing smack, under the big Krupp guns of Santa Clara batteries.

Two Spanish Warships.

Late this afternoon the ships on the Havana station were dumbfounded to see two ships steam out of Havana harbor and headed east. Dense smoke was streaming like black ribbons from their stacks and a glance showed that they were under a full head of steam. By aid of glasses Commander Lilly, of the Mayflower, which was flying the pennant, made out the larger vessel of the two, which was about 200 feet long and 4,500 tons displacement, to be the cruiser Alphonso XII, and the smaller one to be the gunboat Legazpi, both of which were know to be bottled up in Havana harbor. At first he supposed that they were taking advantage of the absence of the heavy fighting ships and were making a bona-fide run for the open sea. As superior officer, he immediately signalled the other ships on the station, the Vicksburg, Annapolis, Wasp, Tecumseh and Osceola, which were moving in to form a column *en echelon*, with gunboats on the right flank. The little squadron moved in obliquely toward the fleeing Spaniards, keeping up a running fire as they went. The Alphonso and her consort circled in shore about five miles below Havana, and after running in for half a mile headed back for Morro Castle. Our gunboats and other thin-skinned vessels of the mosquito fleet did not follow in.

The Associated Press dispatch boat Kate Spencer witnessed the action, which lasted over an hour. As a spectacle, the greatest master of stage craft could not have evolved a finer setting.

A Chase.

The big Alphonso and her convoy steamed swiftly from the dark shadow of the harbor's mouth and turning sharply east ran along the coast as though to slip through the cordon of blockade. It was a bold trick and not at first transparent, although the folly of it created a suspicion, as there was no hope of ultimate escape and no object in escaping. The Mayflower, standing well out, like a cat with a mouse, gave a slight start, then swinging her engines and tiny squadron into line, dashed in to cut them off. The Spanish boats crowded on steam and stood along the coast as long as they dared to give zest to the chase. The Mayflower signalled her consorts "Close in and charge." Word was flung on from ship to ship as they steamed in column *en echelon*. Seeing the bait had apparently taken, the Spaniards veered about and bringing their stern chasers to bear on the Americans doubled back for Morro.

Two of the shells from the Vicksburg burst in the rigging of the Alphonso and some of it came down, but it was, of course, impossible to know whether any fatalities occurred. The American fire was much more accurate than the Spanish, as every shell of the latter fell short of their pursuers.

Batteries Open Fire.

The Spaniards were a mile off Morro and our ships fully four miles further out, when flame leaped from the batteries of Santa Clara forts and clouds of white smoke drifted up the coast. Half a minute later a dull, heavy roar of a great gun came like a deep diapason of an organ on the high treble of the smaller guns. It was from one of the twelve-inch Krupps mounted there and an 850-pound projectile plunged into the water half a mile inside of the American line, throwing up a tower of white spray. It richochetted and struck again half a mile outside.

The mask was now off. Maddened by the failure of their plot the Spaniards continued to fire at intervals of about ten minutes. In all thirteen shots were fired, but not one struck within 200 yards of one of our ships. As soon as the battery opened Commander Lilly signalled and his fleet stood off shore. Captain McKenzie, on the bridge of the Vicksburg, watched the fall of the shells, but he considered it useless to waste ammunition at that distance. He appeased the desire of the men at the guns however, by letting go a final broadside at the Spanish ships, in chance hope of making them pay for their daring before they gained the harbor, but they steamed in under Morro's guns untouched and as they disappeared fired several shots. A number of shots were sent after them at that moment by the Annapolis, which dropped inside the harbor, probably creating consternation among scores of bum-boats on the water front.

Commander McKenzie thinks, as do other officers of the fleet, that the Alphonso has been stripped of her battery and guns, and those used to day were only temporarily mounted. If it was the Alphonso XII she must have found new boilers, since lately she was a helpless cripple in Havana harbor.

From the action of the Krupp guns it is evident the Spaniards have no cordite and are using ordinary cocoa powder.

A Spanish Account.

MADRID, May 15, 10 A. M.—A dispatch from Havana says:

"Three American warships have rebombarded Cardenas with shell and have destroyed the British consulate. The Americans attempted to land men and ammunition; when the cannonade was the hotter. The Spaniards, drawn up on shore, replied hotly to the American fire, inflicting severe loss on the enemy. Seven Spaniards were wounded."

1 P. M.—The *Imparcial* this morning publishes a dispatch from Havana, giving another extraordinary Spanish version of a war episode. It says:

"On Friday the gunboats Conde de Venadito and Neuva Espana steamed out of the harbor and attacked an American squadron of two cruisers and five auxiliary cruisers which were outside. The Spanish vessels fired twenty shots and the Americans eight, the latter apparently retreating damaged. Three crowded tugs followed the gunboats, the people on board cheering them."

It would seem possible that the facts upon which the *Imparcial's* dispatch is based are to be found in the dispatch from the Associated Press dispatch boat Kate Spencer, filed at Key West to-day and sent out early this morning, telling of Blanco's unsuccessful ruse.

ADVICES FROM MANILA.

Spanish Gunboat Captured—Population Eating Horse-flesh—Insurgents Have Not Yet Attacked the City.

[Copyright 1898 by the Associated Press.]

HONG KONG, May 15.—The United States dispatch boat Hugh McCullough arrived here to-day from Manila with dispatches for the United States government. She reported that the Spanish gunboat Callao, from the Caroline islands, recently entered the port of Manila, being ignorant of the outbreak of hostilities between Spain and the United States. An American warship fired across her bows and signalled her a demand for her surrender. The demand being disregarded, the American ship fired direct at the Spanish gunboat and the latter surrendered.

The populace of Manila is reduced to eating horse flesh and the prospect of relief seems far distant.

The Hugh McCulloch also reports that the Philippine insurgents applied to Rear Admiral Dewey for his approval of an attack by them upon the city. The Admiral, it appears, approved of the plan, provided no excesses were committed. The insurgents pleaded then that they had no arms with the exception of their machetes, to which Admiral Dewey replied: "Help yourselves at the Cavite arsenal."

The city of Manila, however, has not yet been attacked. About 5,000 Spanish troops are guarding the road leading from Cavite to Manila. There is no truth in the reported massacre of a number of Americans. There has been only a trifling incident during police duty and nobody was hurt.

LONDON, May 16.—The Hong Kong correspondent of the *Standard* says:

After the Callao crew landed, they were released on parole; and the Callao was paraded in full view of Manila city, accompanied by the United States cruiser Concord.

When Mr. Williams, the American consul landed at Cavite last week, he was received with great enthusiasm and was followed through the streets by a crowd of 2,000 people, shouting "Viva Los Americanos." There were no signs that the Spanish authorities in Manila were prepared to capitulate. All the Spanish inhabitants and many British and German families have sought safety in the suburbs, taking all their belongings. In the business quarters the buildings are covered with foreign flags, the British predominating, with a view of protection should the insurgents capture the city.

"There is much feeling against the British residents; but fortunately the number of foreign men-of-war is constantly increasing and the position of Europeans is becoming daily less precarious. Aguinaldo, the former insurgent leader, is now in Hong Kong, actively negotiating. I understand, with President McKinley. I have to believe that he is seeking to arrange for the future government of the Philippines by a native administration, under the protectorate of the United States.

"At present there is a deal of discussion among the rebel factions, some of which are negotiating with the Americans and others with the Spanish. Whether Aguinaldo possesses enough influence to reconcile these differences and to induce the insurgents to pursue a common policy is questionable. Admiral Dewey is well advised in waiting for reinforcements, since the fall of Manila would produce anarchy throughout the islands. The English here advocate a joint Anglo-American administration. It is asserted Admiral Dewey has recoaled from three British ships."

CAPTURED AMERICANS.

Newspaper Correspondents Held by the Spanish—Flag of Truce Sent to Havana Asking Exchange.

By Cable to the Morning Star.

HAVANA, May 15.—(From a Spanish correspondent)—The Spaniards recently captured two Americans, both of whom claim to be newspaper correspondents and one of whom says he is an electrical engineer. They were taken to Alado. One carried a camera, wore a small five-pointed star and had a quantity of mail matter on his person. When captured they threw themselves upon Spanish generosity and shouted "Viva Espana." It is reported that a third member of the party made his escape by swimming.

The two who were captured arrived here to-day and were taken to Cabalorla wharf, and from there were carried to Cabanas fortress.

At 2 o'clock this afternoon a newspaper dispatch boat was seen approaching the entrance of the harbor bearing a flag of truce. Mr. Marengo, the chief of staff on the naval station, went to meet the boat in a launch. The American vessel lowered a small boat with two American officers, who informed Mr. Marengo that their object was to effect an exchange of Spanish prisoners for the American correspondents captured at Saledo.

Mr. Marengo then returned to lay the matter before Governor General Blanco, after which the launch went out again, this time carrying also Col. Gelpi, of the general staff, and Mr. Gollan, the British consul general. A conference was then held on board the Spanish launch.

WARM WIRELETS.

Cleveland beat Chicago 5 to 2 in the game played yesterday at Chicago.

At Cincinnati yesterday, the Reds won an eleven inning game from the Colonels. The score was Cincinnati 4, Louisville 3.

Edouard Reminy; the Hungarian violinist, dropped dead at the Orpheus theatre, San Francisco, while performing yesterday afternoon.

GOOD NEWS FROM ADMIRAL DEWEY.

Maintaining Strict Blockade at Manila and Can Take the City at Any Moment.

IN POSSESSION OF CAVITE.

It is Probable the Spanish Governor Will Surrender—U.S. Government Making All Haste to Rush Troops to Manila.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

WASHINGTON, May 15.—The dispatches from Hong Kong brought welcome news to-day from Admiral Dewey to the President, and particularly to Secretary Long and the naval officials who are watching the Admiral's movements with so much interest. While no apprehension existed as to his security, nevertheless reassurance of safety is always pleasant. The telegrams indicate that Dewey has lost none of the prestige gained in his memorable fight of two weeks ago and that while he refrains from taking the city of Manila he has it practically at his mercy. The Admiral expresses the belief that the rebels are hemming in the city by land, but the fact that he says explicitly, that they have made do demonstration seems to disprove thoroughly the published report that they had already entered Manila and had begun a career of bloodshed and rapine. The best evidence of the effectiveness of the blockade maintained by the American Admiral and also of the work of the insurgents in surrounding the city is shown in the statements in the dispatches that provisions are scarce in the city of Manila, which seem to indicate to Admiral Dewey an early surrender by the Spanish authorities. Another published report seems also to be refuted by the Admiral's advices, and that is tha tthe rebels had raided Cavite, where the Spanish naval station was located and where presumably large supplies of arms and ammunition were kept. If the rebels have been supplying themselves with arms it must have been with the Admiral's consent, as his dispatch is originally dated from Cavite, indicating that he is still in possession. The greatest satisfaction prevails here over the good work being done and the effectiveness of the blockade being maintained by him. The dispatch, as given out by Secretary Long, is as follows:

"*Cavite, May 13, via Hong Kong, May 15.*—Maintaining strict blockade. Reason to believe that the rebels are hemming in the city by land, but have made no demonstration. Scarcity of provisions in Manila. Probable that the Spanish Governor will be obliged to surrender soon. Can take Manila at any moment. Climate hot and moist. On May 12th captured gunboat Callao attempting to run the blockade. Have plenty of coal. One British, one French, two German and one Japanese vessels have been observing.

"(Signed) DEWEY."

Rushing Troops to Manila.

The officials are making all possible haste to rush troops to supplement Admiral Dewey's forces, so that if the Spanish governor does surrender, the former will not be dependent upon the small number of marines which he can illy spare from his ships but will have the assistance of soldiers in holding his position and maintaining order. It is confidently hoped here that the City of Pekin, chartered as a transport vessel, will be able to clear from San Francisco in a very short time, to be followed in rapid succession by the other three ships engaged for a similar purpose. The Pekin can carry 1,000 men which with the marines aboard the Charleston just about to sail will be of considerable assistance to the admiral, but far from the number he will need. The total number of men to be sent will aggregate probably 12,000, as Major General Wesley Merritt, who is to command the expedition and subsequently to be made military governor, regards that as the least which can maintain order in a city like Manila, made up of many discordant elements. Over ten regiments of infantry and four batteries of artillery from the volunteers have been ordered to concentrate at San Francisco, and from these and the regulars now in the extreme West will be taken the Philippine's expedition. It is expected here that practically all the volunteers will go.

Spanish Torpedo Boat.

Secretary Long was at the Navy Department several times during the day and in addition to a dispatch from the Admiral he authorized the publication of the statement that the torpedo boat Terror belonging to the Spanish fleet was disabled at Port of France, Martinique. The dispatch is as follows: "Spanish torpedo boat Terror disabled at Port of France, Martinique."

There was a disposition among some of those who saw the statement to regard it with suspicion, suggesting that the report of disability was intended simply as a bluff and that the Spanish government has caused it to be spread so that no complaint could be made to France on account of the stay of the boat at a neutral port. None of the officials, however, would express themselves on the subject.

To Exchange Prisoners.

Secretary Long also made public a message which has been received from from Key West telling of the departure of the United States vessel Uncas, in command of Capt. Brainard. She is bound for some point in Cuba with a view to securing the release of two American prisoners under a flag of truce, in exchange for Spanish prisoners held by this government.

At the State and War Departments the officials were on hand in many of the bureaus for the greater part of the day. Secretary Day and Assistant Secretary Adee and Cridler were at their desks. Secretary Day said that he had no important news to communicate to the press nor had he any comment to make on the advices from Madrid telling of the resignations of the entire Spanish Ministry.

In Adjutant General Corbin's office, War Department, important action in the assignment of volunteer troops to the various mobilizing points was taken during the day. The order of assignment shows that there has been some change regarding the points to which volunteers shall be sent, as a great portion of them go to Chickamauga, while those who will come to Washington are less by ten thousand than were originally assigned to this city.

RESIGNATION OF SPANISH CABINET.

Sagasta Entrusted With the Task of Forming a New Ministry.

IS NOT A PEACE MOVEMENT.

Madrid Elated Over the Adroitness of Admiral Cervera—Spain Does Not Like Talk of an Anglo-Saxon Alliance.

By Cable to the Morning Star.

MADRID, May 15, via Paris.—All the members of the Spanish cabinet have resigned. Senor Sagasta will tonight communicate the situation to the Queen Regent, who will entrust him with the task of forming a new ministry.

The cabinet which has just resigned was composed as follows:

President of the Council—Senor Sagasta.

Minister of Foreign Affairs—Senor Gullon.

Minister of Justice—Senor Groizard.

Minister of Finance—Senor Puigcerver.

Minister of the Interior—Senor Capdepon.

Minister of War—General Correa.

Minister of Marine—Admiral Bermejo.

Minister of Agriculture and Commerce and Public Works — Count Xiquena.

Minister of the Colonies—Senor Moret.

4 P. M.—It is officially denied that the Cabinet changes are connected with a peace movement. On the contrary, it is declared that Premier Sagasta's ministry, when the new cabinet is formed, will continue to prosecute the war with the full resources of the country.

11 P. M.—The cabinet council this evening terminated at half past nine. A minister who was interviewed on the situation declared that nothing definite had been decided upon as to changes in the cabinet pending a conference between the queen-regent and Senor Sagasta.

The official *Correspondencia* publishes a note as to Cuban affairs which is much commented upon. The note asserts that affairs in Cuba wear a more reassuring aspect, that the submission of numerous insurgents is expected and that the Spanish negotiations with the principal insurgent chiefs offer possibilities of success.

The Madrid press and people are elated over the alleged smartness of Admiral Cervera in sending Admiral Villamil to Martiuique, thirty-six hours after the former was well on his way to Havana. While it was supposed that Villamil was scouting ahead he was really the squadron's rear guard, the Spaniards thus gaining invaluable time.

Senor Gullon, in reply to a newspaper representative, said the Americans were blameworthy for bombarding towns without giving notice, and added that the government would address a note to the powers on the subject.

With reference to the speech of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, at Birmingham, on Friday night, Senor Gullon said it had real importance, not only for Spain but for the future of Europe. He declared also that a red book would be presented to the Chamber on Wednesday next, in which the government "declares the blockade of Cuba ineffective and expresses the hope that the powers in Europe and America will refuse to recognize it."

11.30 P. M.—It is now believed that only Admiral Bermejo, minister of marine, and Count Xiquens, minister of public works, will quit the cabinet.

PHILIPPINES EXPEDITION.

Delay in the Departure of the Charleston from San Francisco—Vessels Not Yet Ready.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 15.—The United States cruiser Charleston is still at Mare island and nothing definite can be learned regarding the time of her departure or whether or not she will convoy one or more of the troop ships which have been chartered to take the supplies and men to Admiral Dewey. It has been given out unofficially that the first shipload of men will leave to-morrow or Tuesday, but this is impossible unless the men go almost totally unprepared for the duties they may be required to perform in the Philippines. They have not been supplied with sufficient clothing, or arms and ammunition. The quartermaster's department is unable to supply the thirty days rations necessary for the first month's services, and these must be secured before any of the troops can leave. Orders have been received to get the First regiment ready for departure. The City of Pekin, doubtless, will be the first vessel ordered to the Philippines, and she is not in condition to receive the troops; but a large force of men is at work on her and she will be prepared for the reception of men on twenty-four hours notice.

The steamers Australia, City of Sydney and Ohio are being gradually prepared for service as transports, but it will take at least a week or ten days before they will be ready for sea. It is given out to-day that the steamer Conemaugh has not been chartered by the government, as previously stated.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 15.—It was announced definitely to-night that the transport ship City of Pekin, now at San Francisco, would sail for Manila to-night or to-morrow with about a regiment and a half of the volunteers already selected for the expedition. Other forces destined for Manila will be hurried to San Francisco as rapidly as possible, and will be sent to the support of Admiral Dewey as soon as they can be thoroughly equipped.

ENSIGN WORTH BAGLEY.

Remains Met at Savannah by North Carolinians With Floral Tributes.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

SAVANNAH, GA., May 15.—The remains of Ensign Worth Bagley who was killed in the torpedo boat Winslow off Cardenas last Wednesday passed though here to-day on their way to Raleigh. About forty North Carolinians met the train and received the coffin with a number of beautiful floral tributes. The body will arrive at Raleigh about 5 A. M., to-morrow.

SPANISH FLEET OFF VENEZUELA.

Four Cruisers and Two Torpedo Boat Destroyers Reported at Curacoa.

SAMPSON'S SHIPS OFF HAYTI.

The Flying Squadron Arrived Yesterday at Charleston, S. C., and Sailed Last Night Under Orders for Key West.

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CURACAO, May 15.—The Spanish cruisers Maria Teresa, Vizcaya, Almirante Oquendo and Cristobal Colon and torpedo boat destroyers Pluton and Terror, which arrived off the harbor yesterday morning, are still here.

Only the Maria Teresa and the Vizcaya were admitted to the port. They have bought coal, provisions and medicines, and still remain in port. The other warships are outside waiting.

The statement that the torpedo boat destroyer Terror is with the squadron of Admiral Cervera conflicts with a previous statement that the vessel had been definitely located at Martinique, where she was being drydocked for repairs. Probably the Curacao dispatch read Furor, instead of Terror.

Sampson's Fleet.

CAPE HAYTIEN, REPUBLIC OF HAYTI, May 15.—The United States store ship Supply is still here under waiting orders.

No news of the reported capture of the auxiliary cruiser Yale, formerly the American line steamer Paris, has been received here and the report is discredited.

CAPE HAYTIEN, May 15.—The United States torpedo boat Porter and the storeship Supply, which have been here awaiting orders, have sailed to join Admiral Sampson's squadron.

The squadron passed Cape Haytien to-day. It is uncertain whether it will turn southward to meet the Spanish fleet or go first to Key West.

The Flying Squadron.

CHARLESTON, S. C., May 15.—(On board flagship Brooklyn, the flying squadron, off Charleston, S. C., May 15.)—The four vessels of war comprising the major portion of the flying squadron, Commodore Schley, anchored off Charleston bar, nine miles from Charleston, at 4.30 o'clock this afternoon, after having been at sea for three days and seeing nothing of the Spanish cruisers or torpedo boats said to be in this locality. The pilots were dropped at Cape Henry on Friday night and the squadron proceeded to sea at a ten-knot squadron speed. At sunset active battle preparations were made. Ports were closed with steel covers, battle hatches covered, the main batteries of the ships loaded and men sent to the guns with instructions for a night watch to be kept. With all lights extinguished the squadron proceeded in a southeasterly direction. Toward morning, several heavy fog banks were run into and during one of these intervals the collier Sterling became detached. To wait for her was partly the reason that anchorage was made, although Commodore Schley communicated at once with Washington and the Navy Department. The only incident of the trip from Hampton Roads was the holding up of a British steamer that did not display its flag. The Scorpion was sent after and soon overhauled her. She proved to be the British steamer Elsie, with a load of phosphate rock, bound for Norfolk, Va. She was allowed to proceed.

The fleet had splendid weather and a smooth sea. The squadron has been ordered to Key West and sails to-nighht.

Activity at Key West.

KEY WEST, FLA., May 15.—This has been a Sunday of unusual activity here and it is apparent that an important strategic movement is being planned. Commodore Watson arrived on the gunboat Dolphin from the blockading fleet off Havana, orders came thick and fast from Washington, and the naval station authorities were instructed to make quick preparations to coal the big ships.

The ships already in the harbor have been ordered to get up steam without delay, but the officers say they are ignorant of what this may indicate. The announcement from the north of the coming of the flying squadron strengthens the theory held here that a united movement of some kind is contemplated. Several new orders have been issued affecting more complete protection for Key West harbor. Extra guards and watchmen have been placed about the naval station and store houses and only government employes are permitted to approach the government dock. The harbor is almost always crowded with light vessels and the store houses are filled with provisions and ammunition for the fleet, so that a sudden attack by the Spaniards could wreak incalculable damage.

AUXILIARY CRUISER YALE.

Sailed Yesterday from St. Thomas, Under Orders.

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ST. THOMAS, DANISH WEST INDIES, May 15.—The United States auxiliary cruiser Yale, formerly the American liner Paris, has been at this port awaiting orders from the Navy Department at Washington.

The Yale, upon receipt of orders from the department and information concerning Spanish vessels being at Martinique, cleared from St. Thomas at 5 o'clock and sailed west.

LONDON, May 15.—A special dispatch received here from Madrid by way of Paris says a report is current at the Spanish capital that the United States auxiliary cruiser Yale, formerly the American line steamer Paris, loaded with munitions of war, has been captured by a Spanish cruiser. There is absolutely no confirmation of the report, which is discredited.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Wilmington Seacoast R. R.

ON AND AFTER MONDAY, MAY 16, 1898, the following schedule will be in effect over the Wilmington Seacoast Railroad:

Trains will leave Wilmington daily, except Sundays, at 10.10 A. M., 2.00 P. M. and 6.30 P. M.

Leave Ocean View daily, except Sundays, at 7.30 A. M., 12 A. M. and 5 P. M.

On Sunday trains will leave Wilmington at 2.00 P. M. and 6 P. M. Leave Ocean View at 5 P. M.

R. G. GRANT, Superintendent.

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